

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): His final reply has not been received.

Construction of a todu in the Nattakam pakuthi.

239. MR. R. RAMAN PILLAI (*Kottayam*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) whether the local inhabitants have made a request to them for the construction of a *todu* through Pallam and Mariapalli in the Nattakam pakuthi of the Kottayam taluk;

(b) if so, the action taken in the matter; and

(c) whether they will arrange for an enquiry into and report on the need for the expenditure on the construction of the *todu*?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (a) Yes.

(b) The petition was forwarded to the Chief Engineer.

(c) The matter is being investigated.

Maistries of the P. W. Department.

240. MR. R. RAMAN PILLAI (*Kottayam*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) whether the maistries of the Public Works Department possess any technical examination qualification;

(b) whether they are aware that, as their appointments are temporary, the number of maistries is more than what is required; and

(c) if they will enquire whether, in the interests of efficiency, it is necessary to make their appointments permanent?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (a) Yes; most of the maistries possess technical qualifications.

(b) The number of maistries is within the limit of requirements.

(c) The Government will consider the matter.

Average area of land available in the State per head.

241. MR. R. RAMAN PILLAI (*Kottayam*): Will the Government be pleased to state the average area of land available for enjoyment per head of the population in Travancore, excepting backwaters, forests, *pōranbokes* and *tarisu* lands?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): 60.21 cents per head of population.

Registry of lands to members of Depressed Classes in the Kottayam Taluk.

242. MR. R. RAMAN PILLAI (*Kottayam*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications submitted by members of the depressed classes in 1103, for the registry of lands in the Kottayam taluk;

(b) the number of applications submitted in the previous year but pending in 1103;

(c) the number of applications granted in 1103 and the area assigned under such applications; and

(d) the number of applications rejected and the reasons therefor?